

Date: Sun, 3 Jan 93 09:35:52 PST
From: Info-Hams Mailing List and Newsgroup <info-hams@ucsd.edu>
Errors-To: Info-Hams-Errors@UCSD.Edu
Reply-To: Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu
Precedence: Bulk
Subject: Info-Hams Digest V93 #9
To: Info-Hams

Info-Hams Digest Sun, 3 Jan 93 Volume 93 : Issue 9

Today's Topics:

 6 Meter Radio Shack HTs!
 gb2rs news 3rd jan 1993
 Soldering radials to S0-239's
 Who do repeater coordinators represent?

Send Replies or notes for publication to: <Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu>
Send subscription requests to: <Info-Hams-REQUEST@UCSD.Edu>
Problems you can't solve otherwise to brian@ucsd.edu.

Archives of past issues of the Info-Hams Digest are available
(by FTP only) from UCSD.Edu in directory "mailarchives/info-hams".

We trust that readers are intelligent enough to realize that all text
herein consists of personal comments and does not represent the official
policies or positions of any party. Your mileage may vary. So there.

Date: Sun, 3 Jan 1993 11:54:45 GMT
From: nntp.telebit.com!phr@uunet.uu.net
Subject: 6 Meter Radio Shack HTs!
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <1hibcmINNsaa@rave.larc.nasa.gov> kludge@grissom.larc.nasa.gov (Scott Dorsey) writes:

I don't know about the RS units, but I have a pair of Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles rigs, which have a four-transistor FM transmitter and one of the worst receivers I have ever seen. About 10 mW output on 6M; I changed the crystal and tweaked the output coil on the transmitter and fiddled with the LC constant on the receiver to get it to the right general frequency. It's enough to hit the 6M repeater on base, though the antenna is visible from my office window so we aren't talking serious DX performance here). ...

Did you somehow get the xmit and receive to be on separate frequencies, for use with the repeater? If so, how? Does the crystal control the xmit only, with the receiver tuned by an LC circuit? How selective

is it?

There are some cheapo Tozai walkies at the local Walgreen's for \$10 a pair; I'm likely to go pick up a set to play with...

Also, where does one get crystals nowadays? Thanks.

Date: Sun, 3 Jan 1993 12:54:27 +0000
From: pipex!demon!tedb.demon.co.uk!ted@uunet.uu.net
Subject: gb2rs news 3rd jan 1993
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Good morning. It's Sunday the 3rd of January and here is the GB2RS news broadcast, prepared by the Radio Society of Great Britain.

Listeners may remember that for many years we presented a retrospective GB2RS bulletin at this time of year. Unfortunately, staff resources have not been available to do this in recent years. To the rescue has come GB2RS news reader Vic Kusin, GM4HCO, who volunteered to provide his own GB2RS highlights. Here, then, is his review of the past year in amateur radio, as we reported on GB2RS:

We started the year with congratulations to RSGB Member Sir Brian Rix, CBE, G2DQU who was made a Life Peer in the 1992 New Year Honours list in recognition of his work for the mentally handicapped. The first meeting of the new RSGB Council took place in January at Bangor, Northern Ireland, where Peter Chadwick, G3RZP, was elected Executive Vice President for 1992. At a ceremony at Bangor Castle, Terry Barnes, GI3USS, was formally installed as President of the Society in the presence of the Lord Mayor of Bangor. Extracts from the GB2RS broadcast of the 12th of January were read out over Television and Radio in Northern Ireland to promote amateur radio and the Society. Stations in Finland used the prefix OG instead of OH during 1992 to celebrate 75 years of Finnish independence and stations in Cyprus used the prefix P30 during January and February for the 30th anniversary of amateur radio in Cyprus. Kenya signed a reciprocal licensing agreement with the UK. The Society produced an information booklet 'A Closer Look at the Novice Licence' which put the RA's Novice Licence terms and limitations booklet into simple language. Copies are available from RSGB Headquarters. The Radiocommunications Agency released an information sheet: Advice on TV and Radio Reception, form RA179. This gives helpful advice, sets out procedures to be followed and includes a complaint form. Copies are available by telephoning the RA Library Service on 071 215 2072. The beacon GB3LER, located at Lerwick in the Shetland Isles returned to service on 50.064MHz after having its aerials damaged during a severe gale in December. This beacon, operating on 6 and 2 metres is an important auroral warning indicator.

The month long ITU World Administrative Radio Conference, WARC'92, started on the 3rd of February in Torremolinos in Spain. The RSGB's representative on the UK delegation was David Evans, G3OUF. John Allaway, G3FKM, was also at the conference as part of the IARU observer team. The conference was opened by Her Royal Highness Queen Sophia of Spain, who was familiar with the Amateur Service because King Juan Carlos of Spain is licensed as EA00LC. This major International Telecommunication Union Conference attracted over 1200 delegates from some one hundred countries. At least ten countries attending the conference, including the United Kingdom, had licensed amateurs as delegates. OSCAR 14 was taken out of service on the 17th of February to be replaced by OSCAR 22. The Pacsat handbook which fully describes the operations of OSCAR 22 is available from AMSAT-UK. The special callsign 4G2VOA was used from the Philippines during February to celebrate 50 years of broadcasting by the Voice of America. A new 2 metre repeater came on the air in Scotland. GB3LG, on channel R3 is located at Lochgilphead, Argyll. The Girl Guides Association's Thinking Day on the Air took place on the 22nd and 23rd of February. The event is run on the weekend nearest to the birthdays of the founders of the Guide Movement, Lord and Lady Baden-Powell. In the UK some 172 stations took part, and during the event the Guides were able to exchange greetings messages with some 36 countries world-wide.

March saw the ending of the WARC'92 Conference without the expected change being made to the 7MHz amateur band. The alignment of this band on a world-wide basis will be discussed at a later date. The 2.3GHz band, which is allocated on a Secondary basis to radio amateurs, will have to accommodate other services in the future which raises the question of sharing. Wind profiler {newsreaders, this is wind as in weather, not as in wind-up} radar, which concerned frequencies around 50MHz, 400MHz and 1000MHz was referred back to the CCIR, the ITU's technical advisory committee, for further study. The International Amateur Radio Union participated in a Project aimed at establishing amateur radio in Korea. The authorities of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea indicated their positive attitude towards such an initiative. After 67 years, the final scheduled transmissions from the historic BBC HF transmitting station at Daventry, Northants took place on the 28th of March. To mark the occasion, GB67XX operated on the HF bands for a few days after the closedown using some of the large broadcast aerial arrays. Sergei Krialyov, the cosmonaut who travelled with Helen Sharman to the Mir space station, returned to Earth after a year of providing frequent amateur radio activity from the space station. This did not, however, leave space without an amateur radio presence as the NASA Shuttle Atlantis lifted off on the 24th of March with a crew particularly rich in radio amateurs.

The RA announced that from the 1st of April 1992, UK Class A licence holders could use 26dBW, 400 Watts, PEP output power from 1.830 to 1.850MHz. This was a direct result of negotiations with the RSGB. In commemoration of the April opening of the Euro Disney Resort near Paris, the Disney Amateur Radio Clubs operated five Special Event Stations at Disney sites in the USA, Japan and France. On Sunday the 12th of April, RSGB member Mike Costello, G3YPP,

completed the London ADT Marathon in 4 hours 31 minutes and raised a substantial sum towards the RSGB Mencap Albania appeal. The West Midlands Raynet Group was asked to return to Romania, following their earlier expedition with the Yorkshire Dales Relief Team. Raynet provided essential communications for the teams of relief workers who were renovating and equipping 27 medical centres in the same region. A new RSGB award was introduced. The 50MHz Transmitting Award requires confirmation from 40 counties and 12 countries on 50MHz. For the Senior Transmitting Award, 60 counties and 20 countries are needed and this certificate counts as credit towards the RSGB Supreme Award. Information and application forms may be obtained from the RSGB VHF/UHF Awards Manager, Ian Cornes, G4OUT. The major event at the end of April was RSGB'92, the RSGB National Convention and Amateur Radio Exhibition at the National Exhibition Centre near Birmingham. The centre-piece of the event was a diamond-shaped village of RSGB stands. In addition to the trade and flea-market areas, there were lectures on a variety of subjects, from 'Propagation' by Jim Bacon, G3YLA to 'The Future of Raynet' by Geoff Griffiths, G3STG. On the Saturday there was an all-day Packet Radio Seminar. Traditionally, the 'RSGB Show' has become a meeting point for many national amateur radio organisations.

In May, the RA announced a Reciprocal Licensing Agreements between the UK and Malaysia, and between the UK and Sri Lanka. In a massive auroral opening on the 10th of May, RSGB VHF Manager Dave Butler, G4ASR, made 146 CW contacts on the 144MHz band, with 66 locator squares in 17 countries. Many of his contacts were around 2000km. World Telecommunication Day was celebrated by member countries of the International Telecommunication Union on the 17th of May, coinciding with the date of signature of the first International Telegraph Convention in Paris in 1865. The Geneva station 4U7ITU was active on all bands. The Council of the RSGB issued a statement regarding the reorganisation of Raynet, emphasising how important it was that liaison and support should continue between the RSGB and all those involved in this public service aspect of amateur radio. The RSGB would, for the present time, provide insurance cover for all involved in this aspect of amateur radio, whether or not they are members of the Society. From the 29th to the 31st of May the 50MHz band produced double hop sporadic E openings to Turkey, Cyprus and Israel from GJ4ICD in the Channel Islands.

Two RSGB members were awarded the OBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours List in June: Past RSGB President Barney Patterson, GI3KYP, and Britain's first astronaut Helen Sharman, an honorary member of the Society. The RSGB HF SSB National Field Day took place during the first weekend in June. The Open Section was won by the Reading and District Amateur Radio Club, G3ULT/P, the Restricted Section by the Gravesend Radio Society, G3GRS/P and the QRP Restricted Section by the Adur DX Club, G4BUE/P. Overall 93 groups entered for the contest. The RA announced that from the 1st of January 1993 the 12 Words Per Minute Morse Test will change to the QSO-type format currently used for the Novice 5 words-per-minute test. Both the current format and the new one will be available to candidates for the first three months of 1993, after

which the new format only will be used. The RA announced that Ireland had signed the CEPT agreement TR61-01, which means that a reciprocal licence is not required by UK Class A and B licensees for operation in the Irish Republic. Novices are not included in this agreement. A widespread sporadic E opening on the 22nd of June affected the 50, 70 and 144MHz bands. On 50MHz the band opened to North America for 8 hours. During the 144MHz opening the RSGB's VHF Manager, G4ASR, worked 60 stations in Yugoslavia, 17 Italians and 12 Austrians as well as Poland, Hungary, Bulgaria and a Greek station at a distance of 2,400km.

In July Peter Kirby took up his appointment as the RSGB's new General Manager after many years in management, mainly in the Navy. One of his first duties was to attend the Society's Strategy Conference at Warwick University on the 10th and 11th of July. Around 100 people attended the two-day event which proposed marketing the Society more aggressively, a new category of membership for those with at least ten years' service, a bigger RadCom, a higher profile for affiliated societies, a members' help-line service and an investigation of the pros and cons of a code-free HF licence. The aim of the conference was to plan for the next three to five years and it will be some time before all of the proposals can be fully discussed and costed. The first Novice licensee to receive an RSGB VHF/UHF/Microwave Award was eleven-year-old Alice Blackwell, 2E1AIZ, who claimed the 1.3GHz distance award for her contact with LA80J at a distance of 720km using just 1 Watt. A very Special Event callsign GB500GRC, Grand Regatta Columbus, was aired from the 21st of July celebrating the 500th year of the discovery of America by Christopher Columbus. This culminated in the Grand Parade of Sail at Liverpool, marking the end of a four-month voyage of the world's finest sailing ships. Peter Chadwick, G3RZP, was elected RSGB President for 1993. He takes up his appointment on the 1st of January. Armenia and Uzbekistan became Members of the ITU bringing the membership to 172. The AMSAT-UK Colloquium, the annual get-together for those interested in satellites, took place at the University of Surrey at the end of July. The event comprised lectures and demonstrations arranged to provide delegates, from beginner to the expert, with a complete educational and fun weekend with an opportunity to talk to those who design, build, command and launch the satellites.

August saw the 60th anniversary of the BBC's first venture into television when, in 1932 they took over responsibility for programmes previously broadcast by the Baird Television Company. To commemorate this, members of the Baird Amateur Radio Society used the callsign G2TV. This callsign, the first to be issued anywhere for television transmissions, was held by John Logie Baird from 1926 until 1939. A series of articles appeared in the press at the end of August regarding the so-called 'Diana Tapes', which caused widespread condemnation from the licensed amateur radio community over the use of the term 'Radio Ham' in the articles. The RSGB issued Press Statements explaining the difference between the hobbies of CB, scanning and amateur radio, and pointing out that the eavesdropper did not hold an amateur licence.

In September, the UK Amateur Radio Satellite UoSAT OSCAR-22 provided a humanitarian service in connection with the hurricane in the Hawaiian Islands. At the end of September over 200 DX amateurs from more than 30 countries attended the RSGB International HF and IOTA Convention. It featured talks on the RSGB's popular Islands On the Air Award programme as well as those from well-known personalities like Peter Hart, Mike Grierson, Peter Chadwick and Ross Clare, covering transceiver performance and construction, linear amplifiers and EMC. The UK DX Packet Cluster Group demonstrated how to use this DX Information system. Also at the HF convention, the RA announced its continuing support for Project YEAR - Youth into Electronics via Amateur Radio - with a further two years of sponsorship of the Young Amateur of the Year Award. This annual award goes to the most outstanding young licensed amateur and this year's winner was seventeen-year-old Martin Saunders, G7JCJ from Dorset, a keen computer enthusiast who operates a Packet Cluster node serving the local HF DX community.

The 35th Jamboree On the Air took place over the weekend 17th and 18th of October when Scouts and Guides all over the world used amateur radio to celebrate their shared interest. Some joined with the World Federation of Great Towers to put on stations at towers round the world, including Blackpool Tower, the Empire State Building, Centre Point in Sydney, CN Tower in Toronto, the Eiffel Tower in Paris, the Euromast in Rotterdam and the Telecom Tower in London. The report on the June Novice RAE was published, showing a record number of candidates - 369. The City and Guilds attributed the 74% pass rate and high standard of candidates to the RSGB's "well organised training schemes and the standard of instruction and guidance given". A report on the May RAE mentioned a pass rate of over 81%, the highest for several years. It went on to say that "most candidates had an excellent understanding" of EMC. The report also expressed a hope that future candidates will gain more practical experience before sitting the exam. Tests of the RSGB's high power propagation data beacon, GAM1, proved to be successful thanks to all of those who sent in reports from all over the country. It proved necessary to apply for a new frequency for reasons of international cooperation and final approval is still awaited.

In November, Morag Howell, GM0MUV, was given permission by the RA to use the call sign GB4MSS/VP8 from her expedition base camp in the Patriot Hills, Antarctica. She is part of the Pentland South Pole Expedition in which Sir Ranulph Fiennes and Dr Mike Stroud are walking unsupported 2000 miles across the Antarctic. They are also raising money for the Multiple Sclerosis Society. The City and Guilds RAE syllabus had to be changed to incorporate the application of valves as RF power amplifiers, and their advantages and disadvantages. This is to bring the UK in line with other CEPT countries who are working towards a Harmonised Amateur Radio Examination Certificate which, when implemented, will enable a radio amateur to obtain a permanent licence in countries which have signed the CEPT agreement. The conditions of the Amateur Radio Licence and the Amateur Radio Novice Licence were amended by a new paragraph added to Note 1 of the Notes to Terms, Provisions and Limitations

Booklets BR68 and BR68a/N. The original proposed paragraph was studied by the RSGB EMC Committee, who raised some areas of concern and, as a result, it was revised by the RA. The first year of the Novice Licence scheme was reviewed at a meeting between the RSGB, the RA and the City and Guilds. The RA felt the scheme had been a success and that only minor modifications were required. The high operating standard of Novices was a testimony to the effectiveness of the practical element in the RSGB's training scheme. Some minor changes to the examination syllabus were agreed and some small extensions to the band plan were proposed. It was felt that Novices should not have access to the two metre band as this provided the best incentive for them to upgrade to a full licence. No changes are to be made to the power levels. By the end of November, The Pentland South Pole Expedition was well ahead of schedule. Using their Yaesu FT70G transceivers, running 10W to a dipole, they had been in direct communication with Lawrence Howell, GM4DMA in Aberdeen. Morag, GM0MUV/VP8, reached her base station at Patriot Hill after being held up by bad weather. GM4DMA relayed the GB2RS News Bulletin to the expedition and it is understood that they were delighted to hear that we were following their progress.

You're listening to GB2RS, the news broadcasting service of the Radio Society of Great Britain, transmitting in the 80, 40, 6 and 2 metre bands.

Date: Sun, 03 Jan 93 16:56:03 GMT
From: usc!wupost!spool.mu.edu!think.com!enterpoop.mit.edu!mojo.eng.umd.edu!
chuck@network.UCSD.EDU
Subject: Soldering radials to S0-239's
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <1992Dec31.131300.1333@cbfsb.cb.att.com> feg@cbnewsb.cb.att.com
(forrest.e.gehrke) writes:
>In article <1htdmvINNmrn@life.ai.mit.edu> moisan@silver.lcs.mit.edu (David
Moisan) writes:
>>As some of you are aware, there are many designs for 1/4-wave VHF
>>antennas that use an S0239, BNC or N chassis-mount connector upon
>>which the radials are soldered (to the mounting holes).
>>
>>I've tried to build one such antenna using coathangers as the elements.
>>But try as I might, as hot as I get the connector (with a 100-watt gun
>>newly-purchased), the coathanger will not take solder.
>>
>>It's occurred to me that some coathangers are aluminum (don't work,
>> do they?! :)) Yet the coathanger I tried _was_ steel, or so I thought.

I can't say that aluminum coathangers don't exist, just that I have never
seen one. All the cheap metal ones I've seen are steel.

>>
>>Has anyone had actual experience? What materials, if not coathangers, do
>>you use in *your* designs?
>>
>
>1) Never use steel as the material for a radial. It is useless;
> you need to use a good RF conductor like copper or aluminum
> (brass, in a pinch).

Steel works just fine. What do you think the commercial 5/8 wave whips are made out of? Why stainless steel of course! What do you think your car roof (also known as "the ground plane" is made of? Steel.

Steel is not a great conductor, but then the currents in a 1/4 wave groundplane type antenna aren't all that great either. It would take some very sophisticated test equipment to measure the difference in signal emitted from a steel 1/4 wave ground plane antenna (at 2m) and one made of silver.
(Note: At 80m, you would probably have a different story entirely!)

The reason that you were having trouble soldering the steel coathanger is that you need to use a good flux. Rosin is not active enough to make the job easy. You should use something like soldering paste which is a Zinc Chloride flux.

Also, the plating on imported SO-239s is often chrome or nickel which doesn't solder very easily. Any kind of plating on Amphenol's or King's should solder ok.

73,

Chuck Harris - WA3UQV
chuck@eng.umd.edu

Date: Sun, 3 Jan 1993 14:46:23 GMT
From: psinntp!sugar!jreese@uunet.uu.net
Subject: Who do repeater coordinators represent?
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <1993Jan2.184109.13079@mnemosyne.cs.du.edu> rcanders@nyx.cs.du.edu (Rod Anderson) writes:

>
>It is important to recall that in many areas the repeater frequency
>coordinators have been appointed by the REPEATER owners. And the
>represent the REPEATER owners views and interests not those of the
>average ham or repeater user.

A great football coach once said... "you dance with the ones what brung you"

It's true. In many areas the coordinators are picked by the repeater trustees, but not everywhere. In Texas, for example, membership in the Texas VHF-FM Society is open to anyone who wishes to join. Many of the members are not repeater trustees.

>The important thing to recall about
>frequency coordinators is they are more interested in making the
>repeater owners happy than the welfare of ham radio in general.

This is usually because they represent democratic bodies whose members are primarily repeater owners.

The really important thing to recall about frequency coordinators is that frequency coordination grew out of a need to manage the explosion of repeaters.

I know of no area where the frequency coordination group pre-dated the advent of repeaters. Many of the "local" band plans developed long before the need for frequency coordination was apparent.

The reality of the situation is this: Not everyone is interested in repeaters. The frequency coordination organizations are primarily made up by repeater owners not because of some dark communist plot, but because it's natural for persons of similar interest to form groups to manage resources. It's the 90-10 rule in action... 10% of the people do 90% of the work.

>The local repeater coordinators have failed to save any frequencies
>for future use. It is suggested that the most effective form of
>packet radio is to have packet repeater. However in most areas there
>are no 2 m. frequencies available limiting this option

...limiting this option to other bands.

The frequency coordinators have to respond to the needs of the day. That's how democracies work. If you have 300 people saying "we want frequencies", it's not very easy to tell them "no, we're saving these frequencies for some unknown future use". The Texas VHF-FM Society actually tried this. They set aside three 2 meter repeater frequencies for "other than FM use".

These frequencies sat idle for many years, but nobody came forward with any "new technologies"...this was before packet radio existed...

Then, people started putting uncoordinated FM repeaters on these frequencies in the congested areas, so the Texas VHF-FM Society decided to respond to the demand by allowing these frequencies to be used by FM repeaters.

In today's congested world, it's impossible to plan for every possibility. You have to make decisions based on the best information and if you screw up, say "we were wrong...how do we fix it".

>If repeater coordinators were chosen from ham radio in general rather
>than being creatures of the repeater owners there would be no problem
>with closed repeaters, there would be no members only closed repeaters
>on 2 m.

...and if the general ham population were interested enough to participate in the process, this might come about, but the reality of the situation is most hams just want to talk on the radio...they're not interested in making policy.

--

Jim Reese, WD5IYT	"Real Texans never refer to trouble
jreese@sugar.neosoft.com	as deep doo-doo" --Molly Ivins

Date: Sun, 3 Jan 1993 14:13:56 GMT
From: psinntp!sugar!jreese@uunet.uu.net
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

References <1992Dec28.235602.1@ttd.teradyne.com>, <8228@lib.tmc.edu>,
<1993Jan02.200308.16355@eng.umd.edu>#
Subject : Re: 430mhz band under th

In article <1993Jan02.200308.16355@eng.umd.edu> chuck@eng.umd.edu (Chuck Harris - WA3UQV) writes:

>If you want to park your \$10K machine on a public frequency, then you should
>expect it to be used as a public utility. If you are not expecting that,
>then you should move out of the way so that others can use the frequency.

Think of it in these terms... The public highway system is available to anyone who has a drivers license. If you choose to ride the city bus, you can do this for 75 cents and get to your destination. If I choose to buy a Porsche, I spend \$30,000 and get to my destination. We are both using the same public road.

Does your right to drive on a public road give you the right to use my Porsche anytime you want, for free, just because you have a drivers license? No it doesn't.

Repeaters work the same way. Both use public spectrum. The open radio is like the city bus. Everyone contributes something so it can be used by

anyone who wants. The closed radio is like the Porsche. Somebody spent 30,000 on it, but it only has two seats.

>This "I own the frequency" crap IS the largest problem with Ham radio today.
>Nothing compels you to put up a repeater.

This is a HOBBY, remember? We put repeaters on because it's FUN. Some of my systems were intended to be public utilities, some weren't.

>This is not a commercial venture.

It never was a commercial venture. Even closed repeaters are intended to be used by HAMS.

>If you still can't deal with your
>"great act of charity", then take your repeater down, and let someone else use
>the allocation.

Great act of charity??? Excuse me? This is a hobby. I do it for FUN... MY fun, not everyone else's. I enjoy building repeaters, but each is built to serve a specific function. Some are intended for everyone, some are intended for persons interested in specific groups in Ham Radio...like those interested in linking and remote bases. I don't have a particular interest in HF nets, but you don't hear me bitching about how they are wasting the public airwaves.

There's room for everyone...get a grip.

--

Jim Reese, WD5IYT	"Real Texans never refer to trouble
jreese@sugar.neosoft.com	as deep doo-doo" --Molly Ivins

Date: 3 Jan 1993 13:05:27 GMT
From: news.larc.nasa.gov!grissom.larc.nasa.gov!kludge@ames.arpa
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

References <randall.725154767@seashore>, <1hibcmINNsaa@rave.larc.nasa.gov>,
<PHR.93Jan3035445@napa.telebit.com>v
Subject : Re: 6 Meter Radio Shack HTs!

In article <PHR.93Jan3035445@napa.telebit.com> phr@telebit.com (Paul Rubin) writes:

>Did you somehow get the xmit and receive to be on separate frequencies,

>for use with the repeater? If so, how? Does the crystal control
>the xmit only, with the receiver tuned by an LC circuit? How selective
>is it?

Yup, the units I used had a crystal-controlled transmitter and an
independantly-tuned receiver that relied on an LC circuit. How selective
was it? Not very.... it can pick up half the band, it seems. I'm quite
happy with the transmit performance, but the receiver stinks.

>There are some cheapo Tozai walkies at the local Walgreen's for
>\$10 a pair; I'm likely to go pick up a set to play with...

Hey, for \$10 a pair, it's worth it for an experiment.

>Also, where does one get crystals nowadays? Thanks.

Try JAN Crystals, or ICM (International Crystal Manufacturing). They both
have 800 numbers and are good folks to deal with.
--scott

Date: Sun, 3 Jan 1993 14:23:19 GMT
From: psinntp!sugar!jreese@uunet.uu.net
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

References <1993Jan1.150034.23723@ke4zv.uucp>, <C08BID.8uJ@NeoSoft.com>,
<1993Jan3.004149.6956@elroy.jpl.nasa.gov>
Subject : Re: 430 mhz band under th (now repeater costs)

In article <1993Jan3.004149.6956@elroy.jpl.nasa.gov> laborde@oak.Jpl.Nasa.Gov
(Gregory R. LaBorde) writes:

>The basic error in their arguments, I feel, is the assumption that all closed
>440 MHz repeaters are like theirs. I can only speak for the LA area since that
>is where I live, but as many, many posts on this thread have pointed out, most
>closed 440 MHz repeaters here sit there inactive most of the time. Jim, you
>should accept this for most closed 440 MHz repeaters because they are far less
>active than the handful of open ones (again, LA area perspective).

No arguement from me... I know that there are many closed systems that are
not active. My whole intent was to point out that not ALL of them are like
this.

Having been a frequency coordinator in a congested area (Dallas, Texas on
2 meters) for three years, I am painfully aware of the problems coordination
groups have dealing with low activity radios. It's real hard to tell one of
the twelve guys on the waiting list "sorry, there's no channels available, and
there aren't going to be any...ever". During the peroid that I was a

coordinator, I came very close to selling all of my radios and saying "F*** IT--it ain't worth it. That's when I got out of the coordinating business. Being a frequency coordinator was the worst experience I've ever had in ham radio.

In an ideal world, it is easy to say "we'll just take the channels away from those low-usage radios"...but in the REAL world, you get sued if you do this.

Most coordination organizations aren't prepared to fight this battle in court, so they avoid the issue completely. The feeling is it's easier to deal with the people on the waiting list than to fight it out in court when you take away the wrong guy's channel.

--

Jim Reese, WD5IYT	"Real Texans never refer to trouble
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End of Info-Hams Digest V93 #9
